SCAN
Policies Database

State Child Abuse & Neglect (SCAN) Policies Database

DATA USER'S GUIDE

January 2025

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January 2025

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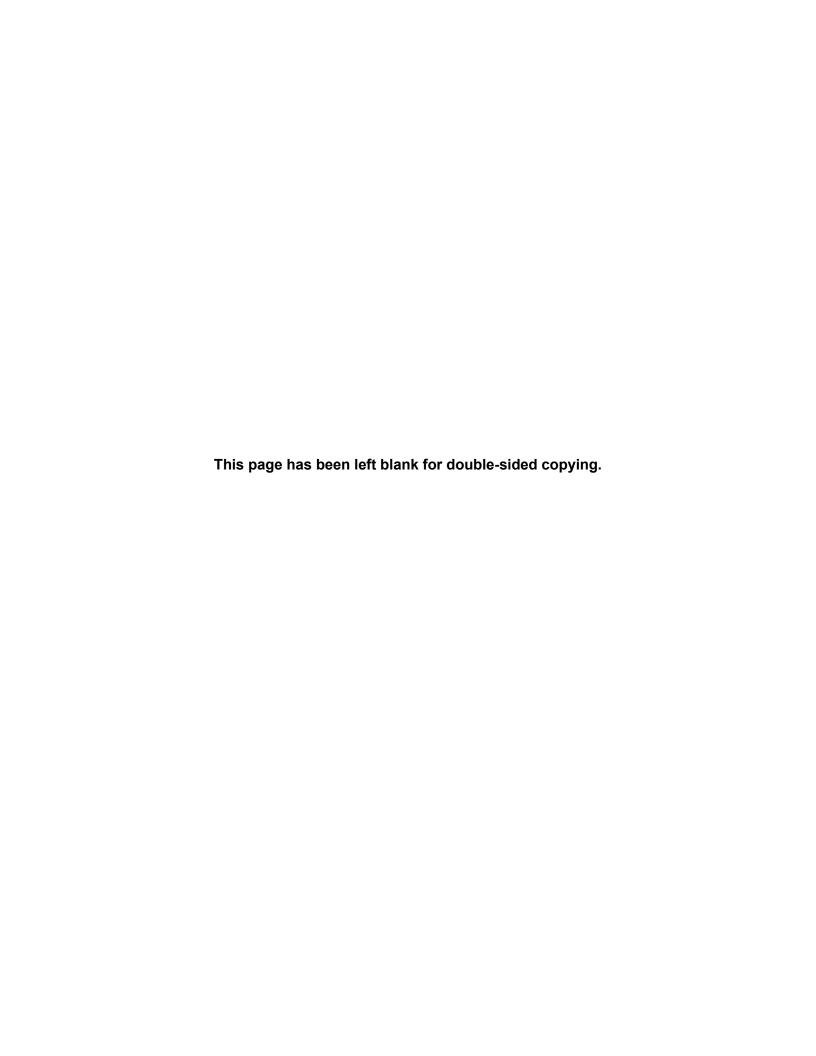This page has been left blank for double-sided copying.

Overview

Introduction

The State Child Abuse and Neglect (SCAN) Policies Database compiles data on the definitions and policies that states use in their surveillance of child maltreatment, along with data on associated risk and protective factors. The SCAN Policies Database is funded by the Office of Planning, Research, and Evaluation in collaboration with the Children's Bureau in the Administration for Children and Families (ACF) at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). The project team is led by Mathematica in partnership with Child Trends.

Although federal law is the foundation of the child welfare system, states drive much of the structure of their own systems. The Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (CAPTA) (42 U.S.C.A. § 5106g), as amended in 2010, identifies certain acts or behaviors as child maltreatment. States must comply with the broader CAPTA definitions, but within those parameters, states have their own legal definitions. State laws—and the policies they set to enforce these laws—have different definitions of child abuse and neglect and different policies for reporting and responding to child maltreatment.

Data on the definitions and related policies for child abuse and neglect—state by state and over time—can help researchers, analysts, policymakers, child welfare agencies, and others broaden their understanding of differences between states and how these differences may influence rates of child maltreatment.

Purpose

The project's purpose is to maintain, enhance, and update the SCAN Policies Database by continuing to review and compile information about selected definitions and policies of child abuse and neglect in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico. The project aims to sustain and improve the SCAN Policies Database's ability to support researchers, analysts, policymakers, child welfare agencies, and others in broadening their understanding of how differences in states' definitions and policies may influence rates of child maltreatment. A primary benefit of these data is to allow researchers to link the analytic files to other data sources, such as the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS), the Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS), other federal and state administrative data, and survey data. When data from the SCAN Policies Database are linked with other data sources, the linked data can be used to answer important questions about how variations in states' definitions and policies are associated with the incidence of child maltreatment, the child welfare system response, and ultimately, the safety and well-being of children.

Highlights

The scope of the SCAN Policies Database includes information about state definitions and policies related to child abuse and neglect for all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico. The scope of the topics in the SCAN Policies Database includes

states' definitions of child abuse and neglect as well as information about policies related to reporting, screening, and investigating child maltreatment. Key aspects of the child welfare system's response and context are also included. The data in the SCAN Policies Database were collected over three time periods and reflect state definitions and policies for 2019, 2021, and 2023, as shown in Table 1.

Table 1. Summary of data collection for each year of the SCAN Policies Database

SCAN Policies Database year	Data collection time period	Year for state laws and policies
SCAN Policies Database 2019	May 2019–July 2020	2019
SCAN Policies Database 2021	July 2021–January 2022	2021
SCAN Policies Database 2023	June 2023–July 2024	2023

Access to database and data use resources

The SCAN Policies Database and data use resources can be accessed at:

- The SCAN Policies Database website at https://www.scanpoliciesdatabase.com. This website provides an interactive tool to view and filter data by state and topic. Users can download the full data file in comma-delimited format and access data use resources.

- The National Data Archive on Child Abuse and Neglect (NDACAN) at https://www.ndacan.acf.hhs.gov. NDACAN provides access to the full data file in a variety of formats, including commonly used statistical packages. NDACAN can also provide technical or analytic support for users who access the data from NDACAN.

Contents

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Introduction to the SCAN Policies Database

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Background

Although federal law is the foundation of the child welfare system, states drive much of the structure of their own systems. The Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (CAPTA) (42 U.S.C.A. § 5106g), as amended in 2010, identifies certain acts or behaviors as child maltreatment. States must comply with the broader CAPTA definitions, but within those parameters, states have their own legal definitions. State laws—and the policies they set to enforce these laws—have different definitions of child abuse and neglect and different policies for reporting and responding to child maltreatment.

Data on the definitions and related policies for child abuse and neglect—state by state and over time—can help researchers, analysts, policymakers, child welfare agencies, and others broaden their understanding of differences between states and how these differences may influence rates of child maltreatment.

Purpose

The project's purpose is to maintain, enhance, and update the SCAN Policies Database by continuing to review and compile information about selected definitions and policies of child abuse and neglect in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico. The project aims to sustain and improve the SCAN Policies Database's ability to support researchers, analysts, policymakers, child welfare agencies, and others in broadening their understanding of how differences in states' definitions and policies may influence rates of child maltreatment. The SCAN Policies Database has information about states' definitions of child abuse and neglect, plus information about related policies on reporting, screening, and investigating child maltreatment. The database also includes selected information about the child welfare system's responses to child maltreatment and information about the context of the child welfare system. More detailed information about the content is provided below.

A primary benefit of these data is to allow researchers to link the analytic files to other data sources, such as the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS), the Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS), other federal and state administrative data, and survey data. When data from the SCAN Policies Database are linked with other data sources, the linked data can be used to answer important questions about how variations in states' definitions and policies are associated with the incidence of child maltreatment, the child welfare system's response, and ultimately the safety and well-being of children.

Data access

Given the utility of the SCAN Policies Database when merged with datasets available through the National Data Archive on Child Abuse and Neglect (NDACAN), the SCAN Policies Database team and NDACAN have both agreed to disseminate the data. The SCAN Policies Database can be accessed in the following ways: (1) using an interactive data feature to explore data on the SCAN Policies Database website, (2) downloading the full data file in comma-delimited format from the SCAN Policies Database website, or (3) downloading the full data set from NDACAN in one of several formats compatible with common statistical software, including SAS, SPSS, Stata, and a tab-delimited format for import into spreadsheet programs and R. The contents of the full data files and data use documentation are identical across both sources.

The full data files available for download include the following files: (1) SCAN Policies Database 2019, (2) SCAN Policies Database 2021, (3) SCAN Policies Database 2023, and (4) an appended SCAN Policies Database file that includes data from all available years (2019, 2021, and 2023) in one file. The appended SCAN Policies Database file is structured so the variable names are consistent across years, and each state has a row of data for each year of data collection. For variables that were new in 2023, a period (.) is used to indicate data was not collected in 2019 or 2021. The appended data file allows data users to easily analyze data across all years of data collection and assess changes over time.

Data use resources

This data user's guide has detailed information about the data set, including the process used to collect and review the data, the scope of information included in the data set, guidance on using the data, such as how to link the data with other data sources, and notes about specific topics. This data user's guide has three appendices. Appendix A provides a glossary of key terms. Appendix B summarizes the decisions made on the scope and variables to include in the SCAN Policies Database after a data quality assessment. Appendix C summarizes the changes to data between the 2021 and 2023 data sets that reflect changes to state laws and policies during this time period. There is one data user's guide that is updated with and applicable for all rounds of data collection for the SCAN Policies Database.

Several additional data use resources are available to support users of the SCAN Policies Database:

- **Codebook:** The codebook provides information about each variable in the data set, including variable names, labels, definitions, protocol number, variable type, and frequencies. There are separate codebooks to summarize the data from each round of data collection. The codebook has four appendices:

  1. Appendix A: Glossary of key terms.

  2. Appendix B:

     i. 2019 Codebook: Summarizes corrections made to selected data elements in the 2019 SCAN Policies Database based on information from the 2021 review process.

      ii. 2021 and 2023 Codebooks: Summarizes changes to data since the prior round of data collection that reflect changes to state laws and policies during this time period.

3. Appendix C: Supplemental notes that are important for accurately interpreting and using the data.

4. Appendix D: Comprehensive list of all state statutes and policy documentation sources used to collect data for the SCAN Policies Database for each state, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico.

- **Errata statement:** The errata statement presents corrections applied to previous rounds of data for the SCAN Policies Database. During each round of data collection, the SCAN Policies Database project team obtained new information such as state documents or other feedback from state contacts. This new information warranted corrections to certain data elements from previously released versions of the SCAN Policies Database. The errata statement provides details about these corrections, including the year and version of the data requiring a correction, the affected variable name and state, the corrected value for each variable, plus the year and version of the data the in which the correction was applied.

- **Data collection protocol:** The protocol has the questions used to collect information about state laws and policies for each round of data collection. Appendix A provides a glossary of key terms. There are separate data collection protocols for each round of data collection for the SCAN Policies Database.

This data user's guide, along with the other data use resources, can be found on the SCAN Policies Database website (https://www.scanpoliciesdatabase.com/data-use-resources) or from NDACAN (https://www.ndacan.acf.hhs.gov/).

Technical assistance

Users with general inquiries and those who access the SCAN Policies Database from the SCAN Policies Database website (https://www.scanpoliciesdatabase.com) who need technical assistance can submit a request to SCANPoliciesDatabase@mathematica-mpr.com.

Other data users who access the SCAN Policies Database from NDACAN (https://www.ndacan.acf.hhs.gov/) can receive technical assistance by submitting a request to NDACANsupport@cornell.edu. NDACAN staff provide free user support for the data sets that they distribute. They can address issues such as importing data to an analysis program, clarifying variable labels, or solving problems with the data as delivered. NDACAN staff cannot, however, replace the role of a statistical analyst or a faculty advisor. Before writing to NDACANsupport@cornell.edu for assistance with the data, please review the support resources provided on the User Support page of NDACAN's website (https://www.ndacan.acf.hhs.gov/user-support/user-support.cfm).

Acknowledgement of source

Authors should acknowledge NDACAN and the original collector of the data when they publish manuscripts that use data provided by NDACAN. Users of these data are requested to include the following statement or an adaptation of it:

> The data used in this publication were made available by the National Data Archive on Child Abuse and Neglect (NDACAN) at Duke University, Durham, North Carolina, and have been used with permission. The State Child Abuse and Neglect (SCAN) Policies Database was prepared by Elizabeth Weigensberg, Nuzhat Islam, Milena Raketic, Mary Grider, Jeremy Page, and Josh Colten. Funding for the project was provided by the Office of Planning, Research, and Evaluation in collaboration with the Children's Bureau in the Administration for Children and Families at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (Award Number:47QRAA18D00BQ/140D0422F0847). The collector of the original data, the funder, NDACAN, Duke University and their agents or employees bear no responsibility for the analyses or interpretations presented here.

The bibliographic citation for this data collection is as follows:

Weigensberg, E., Islam, N., Raketic, M. Grider, M., & Page, J. (2025). *State Child Abuse and Neglect (SCAN) Policies Database* [Data set]. National Data Archive on Child Abuse and Neglect. https://doi.org/10.34681/w36f-bn91

A link to the collection of bibliographic citations for this data set can be found at the Child Abuse and Neglect Digital Library (canDL) at https://www.zotero.org/groups/421939/candl/library.

Publication submission requirement

Users of the SCAN Policies Database who obtain the data from NDACAN are required, in accordance with the terms of the data license for this data set, to notify NDACAN of any published work or report based wholly or in part on these data. A copy of any completed manuscript, thesis abstract, or reprint should be emailed to NDACANsupport@cornell.edu. Such copies will be used to provide NDACAN's funding agency with essential information about the use of NDACAN resources and to facilitate the exchange of information about research activities among data users and contributors.

Content of the SCAN Policies Database

This section describes the scope of the SCAN Policies Database and provides a description of the six content domains and their variables. The section concludes with a summary of several considerations and decisions made on what information to include in the scope of the database.

Scope

The scope of the SCAN Policies Database includes information about state definitions and policies related to child abuse and neglect for all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico. The SCAN Policies Database has information about states' definitions of child abuse and neglect, plus information about related policies on reporting, screening, and investigating child maltreatment. The database also includes selected information about the child welfare system's responses to child maltreatment and information about the context of the child welfare system. The data in the SCAN Policies Database were collected over three time periods and reflect state definitions and policies for 2019, 2021, and 2023, as shown in Table 2.

Table 2. Summary of data collection for each year of the SCAN Policies Database

SCAN Policies Database year	Data collection time period	Year for state laws and policies
SCAN Policies Database 2019	May 2019–July 2020	2019
SCAN Policies Database 2021	July 2021–January 2022	2021
SCAN Policies Database 2023	June 2023–July 2024	2023

The 2023 SCAN Policies Database includes all variables collected for the first rounds of data collection in 2019 and 2021, plus a few variables on new topics or policies. These topics were included based on their relevance to support a better understanding of the incidence of child maltreatment in states, along with related risk and protective factors. Topics were selected based on input from a SCAN Policies Database Advisory Group made up of data users, research experts, representatives from federal, state, and local child welfare agencies, and others. Individuals with lived experience with the child welfare system also provided input into the project's scope. In addition, a pilot data collection and review process informed the inclusion of new topics.

Description of domains and variables

The content in the SCAN Policies Database is organized by six domains. The codebook, data collection protocol, and data file are also organized by these domains. Short descriptions of each domain and the variables are provided below.

1. Definitions of child maltreatment

This domain includes variables that capture nuances in how states define child abuse and neglect. The variables in this domain are coded from a variety of statutes and policy documents. State definitions of child maltreatment are often described in state statutes. Select sections of the state statutes, which were used to code variables on definitions of child maltreatment, can

be found on the SCAN Policies Database website (https://www.scanpoliciesdatabase.com/definitions). This domain includes the following variables:

a. Specific types of child maltreatment are identified as distinct variables, which indicate whether a state has this type of child maltreatment included as part of its documented definition of child abuse or neglect.

b. Qualitative information that specifies whether any subtypes of maltreatment are considered part of the statutory definition for a broader category of child abuse, neglect, or other type of maltreatment. For example, a state's definition of child neglect may include subtypes of maltreatment, such as inadequate clothing, inadequate shelter, inadequate food, medical neglect, educational neglect, or abandonment. These variables give more detail on how states may categorize subtypes of child maltreatment.

c. Variables that specify what other information is included in states' definitions of child maltreatment, including the extent or type of harm, whether the perpetrator is identified, and the child's age.

d. Qualitative variables describe where this information may vary by type of child maltreatment for each state.

e. Whether each state has any documented exceptions to definitions of child maltreatment and, if the state has a safe haven exemption, the conditions for this exemption.

f. States' definitions of fatalities and near-fatalities due to child abuse or neglect and whether the state conducts child fatality reviews or other similar case reviews for child fatalities or near-fatalities due to child abuse or neglect.

2.   Laws or policies related to reporting child maltreatment

This domain includes variables for the laws and policies related to the reporting of child maltreatment. This domain includes the following variables:

a. The context of states' reporting systems, specifically whether states have centralized reporting or, if not, how they are decentralized.

b. The statutory standard for reporting child maltreatment and whether a state has universal mandated reporting.

c. The type of individuals specified in states' definitions for mandated reporters, whether training is required for mandated reporters, and whether mandated reporters are subject to penalties for failing to report child abuse and neglect.

d. Whether the state has penalties for false reporting of child abuse and neglect and if the state allows immunity for reporters of suspected child abuse and neglect.

e. The information requested when the suspected child abuse and neglect is reported, including whether the reporter can remain anonymous.

f. Whether Tribes are involved in accepting reports of Tribal cases.

g. Whether states require all notifications of substance-exposed newborns to be submitted as reports of child maltreatment.

h. Whether the state accepts reports of risk without an allegation of child maltreatment (such as "risk-only" reports).

3. Laws or policies related to screening reports of child maltreatment

This domain provides information about state laws and policies related to screening reports of child maltreatment. This domain includes the following variables:

a. The context of states' screening processes, including whether states have a centralized screening unit or whether their screening is decentralized.

b. The information required to "screen in" a report of suspected child abuse or neglect as well as what decision process, activities, or information is used as part of the screening process.

c. Who conducts screening of reports, including their qualifications.

d. Whether Tribes are involved in the screening of Tribal cases.

4. Laws or policies related to investigation of child maltreatment reports

This domain describes information about state laws and policies related to the investigation of alleged child abuse and neglect. This domain includes the following variables:

a. The activities or information required as part of the investigation process.

b. Who conducts investigations of reports, including their qualifications.

c. Whether investigations can lead to criminal penalties.

d. Level of evidence required for substantiation of child maltreatment.

e. Whether an investigation determination can result in an "inconclusive" finding.

5. Laws or policies related to child welfare response

This domain provides information about laws and policies related to the response of child welfare systems to child maltreatment reports. This domain includes the following variables:

a. The states' use of differential or alternative response, including eligibility for such a response, and when referrals are provided for community services for these families.

b. Whether the child welfare system provides in-home services, specifically for unsubstantiated cases or for families after reunification.

c. Foster care services, including whether Tribes provide foster care for Tribal cases or operate a Title IV-E program and whether a state extends foster care for youth older than age 18.

d. Permanency options, specifically kinship guardianship, subsidized guardianship, and subsidized adoption.

e. Whether federal Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) requirements are codified in state law.

f. Who conducts foster care case management, including their qualifications.

g.   Whether the child welfare agency has staff roles or functions specifically dedicated to addressing disproportionality, equity, or both and how these staff are involved in the child welfare process.

h.   Whether the state has laws or policies that prohibit discrimination against children, youth, or families involved in the child welfare system.

6.   Context information regarding child welfare system

This domain has information about whether states' child welfare systems are administered by the state or county, and whether states operate under a legal consent decree or other court-ordered monitoring.

Updates for 2023

The SCAN Policies Database for 2023 includes any changes to data elements since 2021, which will allow users to identify whether a definition or policy changed for a state during this period. A summary of data elements that changed from 2021 to 2023 is in Appendix C.

The SCAN Policies Database for 2023 includes a few updates to response categories for existing data elements and incorporates a few new topics based on recommendations from the SCAN Policies Database Advisory Group. The new data elements are organized within the current domain structure for the database. All new topics and associated data elements fall within the child welfare response domain and include the following:

Domain	Topics and associated data elements
Child welfare response	- Whether any Tribes directly operate a Title IV-E program - Whether the state codified requirements of the federal Indian Child Welfare Act - Whether youth proactively request, provide consent for, or opt in to receive extended foster care - State criteria for youth to remain in extended foster care - Whether the state has laws or policies that allow for reentry of youth who age out of or leave foster care - Whether the state has anti-discrimination laws, policies, or official statements that apply to the child welfare agency, including agency staff or their contractors that prohibit discrimination against children, youth, or families involved in the child welfare system - Whether the state has a law or policy that allows child welfare contracted organizations with sincerely held religious beliefs to withhold services from certain children or families due to religious objections

Considerations of the SCAN Policies Database

The SCAN Policies Database provides data on the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico. Because child welfare policies can vary within states, especially for states with county-administered child welfare systems, consideration was given to determine whether county-level policy information would be feasible to include in the database. Ultimately, the

decision to focus on state-level data instead of county-level data was based on recommendations from the SCAN Policies Database Advisory Group and the results of a pilot test, which assessed the feasibility of collecting and reviewing county-level statutes and policies. The SCAN Policies Database team's pilot test found that most counties had limited documentation and that their documentation did not show meaningful variation from state policies and definitions. Focusing the scope of the SCAN Policies Database at the state level also made it consistent with unrestricted NCANDS and AFCARS data, which could be linked with the new database to address key questions about the incidence of child maltreatment.

Because states' definitions and policies on child abuse and neglect can change over time, the SCAN Policies Database team considered whether effective start dates could be collected for the current definitions and policies. When we collected, reviewed, and verified data, we included effective start dates. However, there were high levels of missing data and when we contacted states to verify the data, we encountered uncertainty about the start dates. Thus, the decision was made to not include effective start dates in the database. More details about this decision can be found in Appendix B.

The intent of the SCAN Policies Database is to periodically update the data to reflect changes in states' definitions and policies over time. Future updates of the data may also include additional topics, such other policies or associated risk and protective factors related to the incidence of child abuse and neglect.

Data Collection Procedures

This section describes the sample, data sources, data collection, and coding of state definitions and policies for the SCAN Policies Database.

Sample

All 50 states, plus the District of Columbia and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico.

Data sources and data collection

The data collection process was designed to collect publicly available documents that describe a state's definitions and policies related to the incidence of child abuse and neglect and related risk and protective factors. The resources collected included state statutes and regulations, child welfare agency policy documents and training manuals. A full list of topics is available in the data collection protocol (https://www.scanpoliciesdatabase.com/data-use-resources).

To collect the resources, the SCAN Policies Database team searched for documents on state child welfare agency websites and the Child Welfare Information Gateway, a website sponsored by the Children's Bureau at ACF. To update sources for the 2023 data collection, the team searched for updated or new documents from state child welfare agency websites. The SCAN Polices Database team also downloaded the most current state laws and regulations from Westlaw. The team also used publicly available, centralized resources of information on certain topics, such as whether states had child welfare systems that were state- or county-administered[1] or that operated under a consent decree or other legal agreement,[2] or if Tribes directly operate a Title IV-E program.[3]

To confirm that the most current and complete set of statutes and policies documentation were collected, the SCAN Policies Database team reached out to child welfare agency representatives from each state. These state contacts were initially identified in 2019 by soliciting recommendations from the Director of Regional Program, ACYF at ACF regional offices, and existing contacts of the SCAN Policies Database team, as well as by conducting Internet searches of states' child welfare agency websites. For the 2021 and 2023 data collection processes, the team reached out to state contacts who engaged in the project during the first rounds of data collection in 2019 and 2021 to confirm whether they or someone else could serve as our primary contact. The SCAN Policies Database team provided state contacts with a list of the topics included in the scope of the data collection protocol along with a list of the identified state statutes and policy documentation that were collected from publicly available

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[1] The Child Welfare Information Gateway (https://www.childwelfare.gov/pubs/factsheets/services/) was used to identify whether states had state- or county-administered child welfare systems.
[2] Several resources were used to identify whether states had consent decrees and other legal agreements, including resources from Casey Family Programs (https://www.casey.org/consent-decree-summary/), the National Center for Youth Law (https://youthlaw.org/legal-advocacy-impact-litigation), Children's Rights (https://www.childrensrights.org/our-campaigns/class-actions/), and the Child Welfare Information Gateway (https://www.childwelfare.gov/topics/management/reform/litigation/).
[3] The Children's Bureau web page (https://www.acf.hhs.gov/cb/grant-funding/tribes-approved-title-iv-e-plans) was used to identify Tribes with approved Title IV-E plans.

sources. Each state contact was asked if there were any outdated documents that should be excluded or other documents that should be included. Table 3 notes the time period of document collection and review and the number of states in the sample (52 states total) that participated in the document confirmation process for each round of data collection (2019, 2021, and 2023). One variable in the data file (DocumentsConfirmed) allows data users to determine whether a state participated in the documentation confirmation process. The set of documents that were used to code information in the data collection protocol for each state are listed in Appendix D of the codebook for each round of data collection (https://www.scanpoliciesdatabase.com/data-use-resources).

Table 3. Time period and state confirmation for each round of data collection and review

Round of data collection and review	Time period of document collection and review	Number of states that confirmed documents
SCAN Policies Database 2019	May 2019–June 2020	50
SCAN Policies Database 2021	July 2021–January 2022	50
SCAN Policies Database 2023	June 2023–July 2024	41

Data collection protocol and coding process

To ensure the systematic coding of state definitions and policies, the SCAN Policies Database team created a structured data collection protocol for the document reviewers and coders (https://www.scanpoliciesdatabase.com/data-use-resources). The protocol was organized into six domains:

1. **Definitions:** Definitions of child maltreatment
2. **Reporting:** Laws or policies related to reporting child maltreatment
3. **Screening:** Laws or policies related to screening reports of child maltreatment
4. **Investigation:** Laws or policies related to investigation of child maltreatment reports
5. **Child welfare response:** Laws or policies related to child welfare response
6. **Child welfare system context:** Context information regarding child welfare system

Each domain of the protocol included a series of questions about a state's definitions or policies. The SCAN Policies Database team searched the state documents through a combination of manual and cross-document searching capabilities of the NVivo coding software. Using these methods to review the documents, the team tagged and annotated the documents in NVivo to capture and save information provided within the documentation to support answers to each question in the protocol.

The SCAN Policies Database team used multiple strategies to ensure the quality of the coded data. The coders, who were Mathematica and Child Trends employees, were trained on the data collection process, the coding protocol, and key child welfare laws and policies. In addition to the coders, the coding team included child welfare experts from Mathematica and Child Trends. The child welfare experts conducted a quality assurance review of the information coded for each state to ensure its accuracy. All coders and child welfare experts were required to meet a minimum coding proficiency of 80 percent agreement with a review of a state that had

been coded previously and verified by the state child welfare agency. Finally, the SCAN Policies Database team sent a copy of the coded information to the identified state child welfare agency contacts for them to verify and provide any updates or corrections. Table 4 describes the time period of state verification and the number of states in the sample (52 states total) that verified data for the SCAN Policies Database for each round of data collection (2019, 2021, and 2023). A field (Verified) in the data file allows data users to determine whether a state's coding was verified by the state.

Table 4. Time period and state verification for each round of data collection and review

Round of data collection and review	Time period of state verification	Number of states that verified the data
SCAN Policies Database 2019	December 2019–July 2020	47
SCAN Policies Database 2021	September 2021–January 2022	47
SCAN Policies Database 2023	January 2024–July 2024	45

Limitations

There are several limitations of the SCAN Policies Database that are important for data users to keep in mind. The SCAN Policies Database is intended to reflect state laws and policies that are written in documents such as state statutes, regulations, and policies (hereafter referred to as state documents) to the extent those documents are publicly available or provided by state agency contacts.

The process of collecting and verifying the data relies on the collection of relevant state documents and the identification of information from these documents to support responses for each question in the data collection protocol. Although the SCAN Policies Database team requests input from state agency contacts to confirm state documents and verify responses, not all states are available to participate, and their participation varies across rounds of data collection. The variable "verified" shows whether a state verified the data during a particular round of data collection. Further, state verification of data is done from the perspective of the individual(s) checking the information and aligns with their own understanding of the laws and policies and their specific roles and responsibilities. It is beyond the scope of the SCAN Policies Database to collect information about states' practices. At times, information about policies is not available in documentation, and the SCAN Policies Database team considers input from state contacts to identify the correct responses.

The SCAN Policies Database includes several variables about Tribes and their role in the child maltreatment reporting and screening processes and in delivering foster care services. The SCAN Policies Database reflects states' laws and policies, and it is beyond the scope of the project to engage Tribes to verify this data at this time. The data reflect states' knowledge of Tribal involvement in responding to child maltreatment and providing foster care.

Data File

This section describes how the data were prepared, the structure of the data file, and key information about variables in the data file.

Data preparation

The data was largely derived from the original coding by the SCAN Policies Database team, which was verified by states. As appropriate during data cleaning, the team created more categorical or dichotomous variables from open-ended responses, or more response categories for existing variables, after the data were verified by states. The team reviewed open-ended responses and source materials, as needed, to ensure that the variables or responses were coded systematically across states. The data collection protocol was then updated to include the updated questions or response categories.

Data structure

The data files for each round of the SCAN Policies Database (2019, 2021, and 2023) include 52 records, one for each of the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico. The data, collected over three time periods, reflect the state definitions and policies for those periods, as in Table 5.

Table 5. Summary of data collection for each year of the SCAN Policies Database

SCAN Policies Database year	Year for state laws and policies
SCAN Policies Database 2019	2019
SCAN Policies Database 2021	2021
SCAN Policies Database 2023	2023

The appended data file includes data from all three years. The appended data file includes 156 records, since there are three rows of data, one for each year, for each of the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico. For variables that were new in 2023, a period (.) is used to indicate data was not collected in 2019 or 2021.

Data version

Updated versions of the SCAN Policies Database are possible when corrections are identified based on information obtained during subsequent rounds of data collection. The data files include a variable called "Version" indicating the version of the database. All records for a given year within the data file will have the same version.

As of the release of this document, the current versions are:

- SCAN Policies Database 2019 version 3 (2019v3): Third release of 2019 data

- SCAN Policies Database 2021 version 2 (2021v2): Second release of 2021 data

- SCAN Policies Database 2023 version 1 (2023v1): First release of 2023 data

Some variables in the SCAN Policies Database 2019 and SCAN Policies Database 2021 were updated based on information obtained during the collection of data for the SCAN Policies Database 2023. The errata statement available on the SCAN Policies Database and NDACAN websites describes the corrections. Version 3 of the SCAN Polices Database 2019 and version 2 of the SCAN Policies Database 2021 incorporate these updates and replaces the prior version of these data.

Variables

There are several different types of variables in the data set: (1) variables taken directly from protocol questions, (2) paradata that indicate the process by which the data were collected, and (3) key identifiers. Each is described in more detail below.

1. Variables from protocol questions

Variables taken directly from protocol questions reflect the coded responses to the questions in the data collection protocol. These variables are listed in the codebook with an accompanying protocol number that maps to the corresponding question in the protocol. In the protocol, each question is named with a prefix that identifies its associated domain. The six domains are listed below, with the identifying prefix in parentheses:

- Definitions of child maltreatment (D)
- Reporting (R)
- Screening (S)
- Investigations (I)
- Child welfare response (W)
- Child welfare context (C)

2. Paradata

Paradata provide information about the process by which the data were collected. The following variables represent the paradata included in the SCAN Policies Database:

- **DocumentsConfirmed** is a variable that equals 1 if the state confirmed the documents used as sources for coding information for the SCAN Policies Database and 0 if the state did not.

- **Verified** is a variable that equals 1 if representatives of the state child welfare agency confirmed the coding of the state policies and definitions for the SCAN Policies Database and 0 if the agency did not confirm the coding.

- **Year** is a variable that is 2019, 2021, or 2023 for all records to reflect the year that the definitions and policies were in place.

- **Version** is a variable that indicates the initial or subsequent release of a data set for each year. The first version of the data file indicates "YEARv1" and subsequent updates to the data set indicate "YEARv2," "YEARv3," etc.. Data files can be updated with new versions if corrections have been made to previously released data.

3. Key identifiers

There are several key identifiers that can be used to identify a particular state and to merge the data with other common data sets:

- **State** is a string variable with the state's two-letter postal abbreviation.

- **StateFIPS** is a string variable with the state's FIPS code.

- **RegionCode** is a numeric variable with the Census Bureau's region code for all states except Puerto Rico, which is given a unique identifier of 999 because it is not part of a census region.

Variable characteristics

The codebook has the following detailed information about each variable in the SCAN Policies Database:

- **Variable name:** Used to identify the data element in the data set.

- **Variable label:** A brief description of the variable.

- **Definition:** A more detailed description of the variable.

- **Protocol number:** Assigned to each variable to identify the question in the data collection protocol that was used to review documentation on states' definitions and policies.

- **Variable type:** Either numeric or string.

- **Universe:** The total number of cases possible for each variable in the data set. The universe for all variables is 52, which represents each of the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico.

- **N:** The total number of cases with valid values for the variable.

- **Frequencies:** The frequencies for each value are presented for all numeric variables.

Variable responses

Most variable response categories were pre-established before data collection. As noted, in some cases the SCAN Policies Database team revised or added categories when a critical mass of open-ended responses across states suggested we should modify existing or include more options. The data collection protocol reflects these updates.

In some cases, there was not enough information to code a particular response, even with a state representative reviewing the data. In those cases, the response was coded as unknown (88). Logical skips, which are reflected in the data as 66, were used when a question was not applicable to a particular state given a related response on a preceding question.

Open-ended responses

A substantial number of variables in the data file allow for open-ended responses. As noted, the SCAN Policies Database team created new variables or response categories when they could

easily be categorized for the data user. The team retained many open-ended responses from the coders to give data users more information. Data users can consider whether and how to incorporate this information in their analyses.

Instructions for Use

The SCAN Policies Database is available from both the SCAN Policies Database website and the NDACAN website.

Data formats

Although the data available on each site are the same, the data formats and tools for exploring the data are different.

Data formats or tools	SCAN Policies Database website	NDACAN
Online tools for exploring or subsetting the data	X	
Comma-delimited data file	X	
Tab-delimited data file		X
Text data file		X
Code for importing and labeling a text data file in Stata, SAS, and SPSS		X
Data file formats with labeling for Stata, SAS, and SPSS		X
Instructions and code for importing SPSS and tab-delimited files into R		X

Importing data to common statistical packages

The comma-delimited (.csv) data file provided by the SCAN Policies Database website may be imported into the user's preferred statistical package by using the import function for that package. Users who wish to work with the data in Excel may open the comma-delimited file in Excel and select "File" from the main menu, then select "Save As" to save the file in Excel (.xlsx) format. Because labels are not included in .csv files, users should refer to the codebook. The codebook may be used to obtain the definition of each variable and the meaning of the numeric codes.

NDACAN provides the SCAN Policies Database in a variety of data file formats. A tab-delimited (.tab) data file is available for use in spreadsheet programs. NDACAN also provides text data files along with code that can be used to import data in Stata (.do), SAS (.sas), and SPSS(.sps). Data in file formats native to Stata (.dta), SAS (.sas7bdat), and SPSS (.sav) as provided by NDACAN can be opened directly in these statistical packages, with variable labels as well as value labels and formats. Guidance for using the import programs as well as instructions for importing the data into R can be found on the [NDACAN User Support](#) webpage.

Merging with other data

The SCAN Policies Database can be merged with other data sets by using one of the following geographic identifiers:

- State: Two-letter state abbreviation

- StateFIPS: Two-digit state Federal Information Processing Standard (FIPS) code

- RegionCode: Census region code

For example, the NCANDS Child File, which is available via a restricted data license from NDACAN, contains the two-letter state abbreviation in the variable StaTerr. Variables from the SCAN Policies Database can be merged by using the variables State and StaTerr.

Similarly, the AFCARS Foster Care File contains the two-letter state abbreviation in the variable St, but also contains the State FIPS code in the variable State. Therefore, the SCAN Policies Database can be merged with this file by using either of the following combinations of linking variables:

- State (from SCAN Policies Database): St (from AFCARS)

- StateFIPS (from SCAN Policies Database): State (from AFCARS)

The SCAN Policies Database can also be merged with state administrative data or survey data that contain state or census region codes. See the NDACAN User Support page for examples of merging data using different statistical packages.

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APPENDIX A

Glossary of Key Terms

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Appendix A: Glossary of Key Terms

This glossary defines several key terms used in the SCAN Policies Database. The terms are organized alphabetically within each of the six topic domains, which reflect the organizational structure of the data file, codebook, and data collection protocol. This glossary is not an exhaustive list of all terms used in the database. Instead, it highlights several terms that may be unfamiliar to data users.

The SCAN Policies Database codebook (https://www.scanpoliciesdatabase.com/data-use-resources) also provides a resource for users to understand the definitions of specific variables. For more information about these or other child welfare terms, please refer to the glossary produced by the Child Welfare Information Gateway (https://www.childwelfare.gov/glossary/).

Alternative or differential response: An approach used by some child protection or child welfare agencies to provide different options to respond to reports of child abuse and neglect, other than an investigation to assess whether child maltreatment occurred. This response can be referred to as an alternative response, a differential response, or a dual-track or multiple-track response system. Different factors are used to determine eligibility for alternative or differential response. Such factors often include assessment of the level of risk for the child and the family's need for support services.

Anti-discrimination laws or policies relevant to the child welfare system: A state law, policy, or other official statement that prohibits discrimination against children, youth, or families involved in the child welfare system or other public programs. Any anti-discrimination law, policy, or statement established by a state department or agency that includes the child welfare agency would apply.

Centralized reporting: A child maltreatment reporting method, usually a hotline, designed to facilitate reporting to one entity that will accept reports of suspected child abuse and neglect from all locations across a state (see definition for *reporting*).

Consent decree: A legal order that results from a lawsuit against the child welfare agency. Consent decrees often have requirements for the child welfare agency to implement corrective actions and monitor improvements related to the reason for the lawsuit.

Cultural broker: A person who draws on established community relationships and provides culturally sensitive brokering, support, and advocacy to families who are involved with or at risk of being involved with the child welfare system. Cultural brokers also help identify and address concerns about disproportionality and disparities in the child welfare system.

Extended foster care: Foster care services provided to young adults aged 18 and older, which may include a voluntary placement or similar agreement[4]. For purposes of this project, extended foster care services are not limited to only those services funded by Title IV-E and may include services supported by other funding sources, such as state funding.

Factitious disorder by proxy: A type of child maltreatment, also known as Munchausen by proxy or medical child abuse, that results when a parent or caretaker misrepresents information,

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[4] For more information about extended foster care, please see the available resources from the Child Welfare Information Gateway at https://www.childwelfare.gov/topics/systemwide/laws-policies/statutes/extensionfc.

simulates an illness, or seeks medical treatment for a child who is not really sick with the alleged illness.

Failure to thrive: A type of child maltreatment that is a medically diagnosed condition in which a child fails to develop physically. Also referred to as nonorganic failure to thrive. This condition is typically indicated by a child's weight, height, and motor development falling significantly below age-appropriate ranges with no medical or organic cause.

Guardianship: A legal permanency option granted by the court when the parental rights of the child are transferred to an adult nonparent to serve as the child's caretaker.

Indian Child Welfare Act: The Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) of 1978 is a federal law that governs the removal and out-of-home placement of American Indian and Alaska Native (AI/AN) children and youth. ICWA sets minimum standards for states concerning the removal of AI/AN children and youth, placement preferences for family and Tribal members, and protections for parents when terminating parental rights. The law also specifies the roles of states and Tribal governments in these processes.[5]

In-home services: Services provided to children and families who were reported for alleged child maltreatment and determined as needing supports to address the children's safety needs. The children are not in foster care or in the custody of the child welfare agency. These services can be provided to children who are able to remain at home, without needing out-of-home or foster care, or to children who have been reunified with their families and returned home from being in out-of-home or foster care. In-home services can be provided directly by the child welfare agency or by another service provider on behalf of a child welfare agency.

Institutional abuse or neglect: A type of child maltreatment that occurs while the child is in an institution, facility, or agency that is responsible for the child's welfare, such as foster care, out-of-home care, or any public or private residential home.

Investigation: A response by the child protection or child welfare agency that gathers information to determine whether the reported child maltreatment occurred. The investigation assesses whether child maltreatment occurred or whether the child is at risk of child maltreatment and results in a formal determination or disposition, such as whether or not the report of child maltreatment was substantiated (see definition for *substantiation*).

Kinship guardianship: State laws and policies that allow for a family member, or "kin," to become the legal permanent guardian for a child who has been placed in out-of-home or foster care (see definition for *guardianship*).

Mandated reporting: A state law requiring certain people to report known or suspected child abuse and neglect. Some states require all people to report child maltreatment (see *universal mandated reporting*), while other states identify specific professionals as mandated reporters (see definition for *reporting*).

Reporting: The process in which a person who knows of or suspects child abuse or neglect notifies authorities, such as child protection or child welfare agencies, of the alleged child

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[5] For more information about the Indian Child Welfare Act, please see the available resources from the Child Welfare Information Gateway at https://www.childwelfare.gov/topics/tribal-child-welfare/indian-child-welfare-act/?top=1390.

maltreatment and provides information that is known about the alleged child victim, perpetrator, and child maltreatment.

Safe haven: A policy where a parent can voluntarily relinquish a child, usually a newborn, to lawfully designated locations, such as hospitals, fire stations, or other safe settings. When a child is safely surrendered in this way, the parent is protected from criminal prosecution. The voluntary relinquishment of a child that follows the safe haven policy requirements may be exempt from the state's definitions of child maltreatment.

Screening: The process in which child protection or child welfare agency staff review information received from a report of child maltreatment to determine whether there is sufficient information to "screen in" a report to pursue next steps, such as opening an investigation or referring the case for an alternative response. The screening process typically considers whether there is sufficient information about a variety of factors, including whether the report provides enough information to identify the alleged child victim and whether the alleged child maltreatment meets the state's definitions for child abuse or neglect.

Shaken baby syndrome: A type of child maltreatment that involves a serious head or brain injury resulting from violent shaking or impacting of the head of an infant or small child, which can result in death or permanent neurologic disability. Also known as abusive head trauma or shaking impact syndrome.

State- and county-administered child welfare systems: The framework for administration of child welfare services and programs, which can be administered at the state or county levels. State-administered systems are more centralized, while county-administered systems are decentralized and can have more variability across counties.

Subsidized adoption: State program that provides financial assistance or subsidies for caregivers to adopt children from foster care who have special needs.

Subsidized guardianship: State program that provides financial assistance or subsidies for caregivers who take legal guardianship of children (see definition for *guardianship*).

Substantiation: A decision made at the conclusion of an investigation of a report of alleged child maltreatment, when there is sufficient and credible evidence that the child maltreatment occurred or that there is risk of child maltreatment. The term for a substantiated investigation decision can vary by jurisdiction. It can also be referred to as a founded, indicated, or confirmed report of child maltreatment (see definition for *investigation*).

Title IV-E foster care program: Title IV-E of the Social Security Act provides federal funding for foster care—including maintenance expenses for eligible children and related administrative and training expenses—to states and Tribes with approved title IV-E plans.[6]

Tribes: The original or first inhabitants of North America and their communities, including Indigenous, First Nation, American Indian, Indian, Native American, Native, and Alaska Native communities. The project did not limit this definition to only federally recognized Tribes, so it is inclusive of all Tribes based on each states' definitions and policies. Some Tribal lands span multiple states.

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[6] For more information about the title IV-E foster care program, please see the available resources from the Children's Bureau at https://www.acf.hhs.gov/cb/grant-funding/title-iv-e-foster-care.

Universal mandated reporting: A state law that requires all people, regardless of profession, to report known or suspected child maltreatment (see definition for *reporting*).

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APPENDIX B

**Summary of Scope and Variable Decisions
Based on Data Quality Assessment**

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Appendix B: Summary of Scope and Variable Decisions Based on Data Quality Assessment

After concluding each round of data collection in 2019, 2021, and 2023, the SCAN Policies Database team reviewed and assessed the quality of the data collected for all variables. The team refined the scope of the variables included in the data set and modified a few variables during the data quality review efforts.

The team revised several variables based on the quality assessment. Specifically, several categorical variables were created based on information that was originally collected with open-text responses. In some cases, a few variables were condensed or combined if the collected information overlapped in content.

Some variables were dropped from the scope of the data set because they did not capture responses (N = 0) or they did not capture information on variability from one state to another. For example, a large number of unknown response categories were included in the original scope of the data collection protocol, but were ultimately dropped because the variables did not yield any responses or clarify why the information was unknown.

During the first data collection in 2019, the effective start dates of the child maltreatment definitions and policies were dropped from the scope of the data set. The team collected and coded effective start dates to the best of its ability and solicited targeted input from the states through the verification process to review or correct the dates. However, throughout the data collection, review, and verification process, there were uncertainties both within the SCAN Policies Database team about coding the correct data and from the state agency contacts who verified the data. During the data verification process, the state contacts provided minimal feedback on the date variables, often saying that this information was not known. The limited feedback from the state contacts on the date variables suggested that either they did not closely review the dates or they did not know this information. In addition, after reviewing the quality of the data collected on the effective start dates, the team found a high percentage of missing data for these variables. Further, the date range across these variables greatly varied, which lead to uncertainty about whether the dates reflected initial implementation dates of laws or policies or if they depicted dates of recent amendments. The team decided to omit the date variables, given the concerns about the reliability of these data.

For the second and third rounds of data collection (2021 and 2023), the SCAN Policies Database team selected new variables to include in the SCAN Policies Database. After collecting data on the variables, the team reviewed the quality of these data as part of the data review and cleaning process. Any variables with data quality concerns (such as inconsistent or unclear responses, a high number of "unknown" responses, lack of supporting documentation, or uncertainties raised by state contacts) were excluded from the SCAN Policies Database.

To capture changes in state laws and policies across time, the 2019, 2021, and 2023 data sets contain the date of data collection, which can be used as the time point of reference. As a supplementary resource, the SCAN Policies Database website provides data users with state statutes (https://www.scanpoliciesdatabase.com/definitions) that contain statutory text on definitions of child maltreatment. These documents contain the full legislative history of changes in the state laws, with corresponding dates for all states.

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APPENDIX C

Changes to Data Between the 2021 and 2023 SCAN Policies Data Sets That Reflect Changes to State Laws and Policies

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Appendix C: Changes to Data Between the 2021 and 2023 SCAN Policies Data Sets That Reflect Changes to State Laws and Policies

A key objective of the SCAN Policies Database is to identify changes in states' laws and policies over time. This appendix summarizes the changes in state laws and policies that occurred between data collection for the 2021 and 2023 SCAN Policies Database. In addition to summarizing the changes overall and by domain, this appendix includes a detailed list of each variable with changes over this time and identifies states that had changes for that variable.

This appendix provides an overview of changes in data elements from 2021 version 2 to 2023 version 1 data sets for all numeric variables. This comparison excluded string variables because most changes to these variables were due to non-substantive revisions (for example, editing, minor text refinements based on input from state contacts, or revising information in the open text response if a newly created categorical variable captured it). Data users who conduct analysis with string variables should review those data to determine if there are any substantive changes of importance for their analysis.

Most of the changes identified in this appendix reflect changes in states' laws and policies. However, this appendix also includes select variables where a new response option (variable value) was implemented to capture state laws and policies more accurately. Data users should review changes for variables of interest to confirm if these changes are reflective of changes in states' laws and policies or a revised response option.

Summary of changes over time

Across all domains, 400 numeric data elements[7] changed between the 2021 version 2 and 2023 version 1 data sets, which represents changes to 2.40 percent of all numeric data elements in the 2023 SCAN Policies Database. In total, 158 numeric variables had at least one data element (or state) with a change from 2021 to 2023, which is 49.38 percent of variables.

Table C.1 presents the number and percentage of data elements and variables with changes from 2021 to 2023 for each domain. The child welfare response domain had the highest number of data elements (158) and variables (57) with changes between 2021 and 2023.

Table C.1. Number and percentage of changes from 2021 to 2023 among numeric data elements and variables, by domain

Domain	Number (%) of numeric data elements with changes	Number of numeric data elements	Number (%) of numeric variables with changes	Number of numeric variables
Definitions	35 (0.93%)	3,744	22 (30.55%)	72
Reporting	57 (1.07%)	5,304	34 (33.33%)	102
Screening	72 (3.46%)	2,080	19 (47.50%)	40
Investigations	73 (3.19%)	2,288	25 (56.82%)	44
Child welfare response	158 (5.06%)	3,120	57 (95.00%)	60
Child welfare system context	5 (4.81%)	104	1 (50.00%)	2
Total across all domains	**400 (2.40%)**	**16,640**	**158 (49.38%)**	**320**

[7] Data elements are defined as each state's response to a variable. For example, a variable that has responses from all states, plus Washington, DC, and Puerto Rico, would have 52 data elements.

Data elements with changes between 2021 and 2023 data sets

To help data users easily identify the data elements that changed between the 2021 version 2 and 2023 version 1 data sets, Table C.2 lists all variables with changes. For each variable, the table depicts the number and name of states with changes for that variable.

Table C.2. List of variables with changes from 2021 to 2023 and the states with those changes

Domain	Variable name	Number of states with change	Name of state
Definition	Def_DrugAlcMisuse	1	Wyoming
Definition	Def_PrenatalExposure	1	Wyoming
Definition	Def_IllicitSubstance	1	Nebraska
Definition	Def_DV	1	Wyoming
Definition	Def_FactitiousDisorder	1	Oklahoma
Definition	Def_Other	2	Nebraska, Oklahoma
Definition	DefPerp_FamilyMember	1	Virginia
Definition	DefPerp_AnyPerson	1	Oregon
Definition	DefPerp_Other	3	Oklahoma, Oregon, Vermont
Definition	DefPerp_VaryByType	1	Maine
Definition	DefAge_Specify	2	Connecticut, Oregon
Definition	Exempt_FinancialIssues	2	California, Kentucky
Definition	Exempt_SubstanceExposed	3	Nebraska, New Hampshire, Ohio
Definition	Exempt_Other	1	Ohio
Definition	SafeHaven_Other	5	Alabama, Iowa, Mississippi, North Carolina, Virginia
Definition	FatalitiesDefine_Not	2	Maryland, Wyoming
Definition	FatalitiesDefine_Injury	1	Wyoming
Definition	FatalitiesDefine_Care	2	Maryland, Wyoming
Definition	FatalitiesReview	1	Vermont
Definition	NearFatalities_Not	1	Maryland
Definition	NearFatalities_General	1	Maryland
Definition	NearFatalities_Specific	1	Vermont
Reporting	Reporter_FosterParent	1	Ohio
Reporting	Reporter_CampStaff	3	District of Columbia, Minnesota, Wisconsin
Reporting	Reporter_Coach	1	Michigan
Reporting	Reporter_GALCASA	1	District of Columbia
Reporting	Reporter_Other	2	Nevada, Vermont
Reporting	ReporterTrainingReq	3	Illinois, Massachusetts, North Dakota
Reporting	ReporterTraining_FosterParent	1	North Dakota
Reporting	ReporterTraining_TeacherSchool	1	North Dakota
Reporting	ReporterTraining_ChildcareStaff	1	North Dakota
Reporting	ReporterTraining_CampStaff	1	Wisconsin

Domain	Variable name	Number of states with change	Name of state
Reporting	ReporterTraining_MedicalDental	1	North Dakota
Reporting	ReporterTraining_SUDProvider	1	North Dakota
Reporting	ReporterTraining_MHProf	1	North Dakota
Reporting	ReporterTraining_Police	1	North Dakota
Reporting	ReporterTraining_OtherCourt	1	North Dakota
Reporting	ReporterTraining_Images	1	North Dakota
Reporting	ReporterTraining_Clergy	1	North Dakota
Reporting	ReporterTraining_Other	1	North Dakota
Reporting	ReporterPenalty_CampStaff	2	Minnesota, Wisconsin
Reporting	ReporterPenalty_Coach	1	Michigan
Reporting	ReporterPenalty_Other	2	Nevada, Vermont
Reporting	FalseReportPenalty	1	Alaska
Reporting	FalseReportPenalty_Criminal	1	Alaska
Reporting	FalseReportPenalty_Civil	1	Alaska
Reporting	FalseReportPenalty_Professional	1	Alaska
Reporting	FalseReportPenalty_Other	1	Alaska
Reporting	ReportInfo_MaltreatmentDate	1	North Dakota
Reporting	ReportInfo_Reporter	1	Idaho
Reporting	ReportInfo_Other	1	Georgia
Reporting	ReportAnonymous	2	Arkansas, Delaware
Reporting	TribalReport	14	Arkansas, District of Columbia, Hawaii, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Missouri, New Hampshire, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Puerto Rico, Vermont, West Virginia
Reporting	SENNotificationReport_No	2	Washington, Wyoming
Reporting	SENNotificationReport_YesAll	2	Puerto Rico, Washington
Reporting	SENNotificationReport_Other	1	Wyoming
Screening	ScreenInfo_MalType	1	Wyoming
Screening	ScreenInfo_Perp	1	New Hampshire
Screening	ScreenInfo_Other	3	Indiana, New Hampshire, Wyoming
Screening	ScreenProcess_Individual	1	New Hampshire
Screening	ScreenProcess_IndividualReq	2	New Hampshire, North Dakota
Screening	ScreenReq_OtherCases	1	Idaho
Screening	ScreenRiskAssess_SDM	3	Arkansas, Kentucky, Puerto Rico
Screening	ScreenRiskAssess_Other	3	Arkansas, Kentucky, Puerto Rico
Screening	Screener_Caseworker	2	Kansas, Washington
Screening	Screener_Supervisor	1	Washington
Screening	Screener_SpecialUnit	1	Nevada
Screening	ScreenerQual_Associate	2	Indiana, South Dakota
Screening	ScreenerQual_Bachelor	2	Rhode Island, Wyoming

Domain	Variable name	Number of states with change	Name of state
Screening	ScreenerQual_Master	2	North Dakota, South Dakota
Screening	ScreenerQual_Training	7	Arkansas, Illinois, Missouri, Montana, New Jersey, South Dakota, Washington
Screening	ScreenerQual_Experience	9	Arkansas, Delaware, Indiana, Louisiana, Nebraska, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, West Virginia, Wyoming
Screening	ScreenerQual_Other	3	Arkansas, Idaho, Rhode Island
Screening	ScreenerQual_SW	12	Delaware, Idaho, Indiana, Louisiana, Montana, Nebraska, New Jersey, Puerto Rico, Rhode Island, Vermont, West Virginia, Wyoming
Screening	TribalScreen	16	Arkansas, District of Columbia, Hawaii, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Minnesota, Missouri, New Hampshire, New Mexico, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Puerto Rico, Vermont, West Virginia
Investigation	InvestReq_HomeVisit	2	California, New Hampshire
Investigation	InvestReq_OtherChild	2	New Hampshire, Washington
Investigation	InvestReq_HomeStudy	2	New Hampshire, North Dakota
Investigation	InvestReq_MedEval	3	Nebraska, New Hampshire, North Dakota
Investigation	InvestReq_HomeVisitCases	2	California, New Hampshire
Investigation	InvestReq_VictimCases	1	Nebraska
Investigation	InvestReq_OtherChildrenCase	2	New Hampshire, Washington
Investigation	InvestReq_RiskAssessCases	1	North Dakota
Investigation	InvestReq_HomeStudyCases	3	Montana, New Hampshire, North Dakota
Investigation	InvestReq_PerpCrimCases	1	Oregon
Investigation	InvestReq_MedEvalCases	3	Nebraska, New Hampshire, North Dakota
Investigation	InvestReq_PerpInterviewCases	1	New Hampshire
Investigation	InvestReq_ReporterCases	1	Nebraska
Investigation	InvestReq_OtherCases	1	Nebraska
Investigation	InvestStaff_Supervisor	2	Nebraska, Puerto Rico
Investigation	InvestStaff_SpecialUnit	2	Nevada, Washington
Investigation	InvestStaff_Other	1	Alabama
Investigation	InvestQual_Associate	2	Indiana, South Dakota
Investigation	InvestQual_Bachelor	3	Alaska, Rhode Island, Wyoming
Investigation	InvestQual_Master	2	New Hampshire, North Dakota
Investigation	InvestQual_Training	3	Montana, New Jersey, Washington
Investigation	InvestQual_Experience	11	Alaska, Delaware, District of Columbia, Indiana, Louisiana, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New Jersey, Rhode Island, West Virginia, Wyoming
Investigation	InvestQual_Other	6	Alaska, Arizona, District of Columbia, Idaho, Rhode Island, West Virginia

Domain	Variable name	Number of states with change	Name of state
Investigation	InvestQual_SW	13	Alaska, Colorado, Delaware, Idaho, Indiana, Louisiana, Montana, Nebraska, New Jersey, Puerto Rico, Rhode Island, Vermont, Wyoming
Investigation	InvestInconclusive	3	Indiana, Montana, Puerto Rico
Child Welfare response	AlternativeResponse	1	Maine
Child Welfare response	AltResp_EligibilityMaltreatment	1	Maine
Child Welfare response	AltResp_Inelig_Fatality	1	Maine
Child Welfare response	AltResp_Inelig_SubExposed	1	Maine
Child Welfare response	AltResp_Inelig_PhysicalAbuse	1	Maine
Child Welfare response	AltResp_Inelig_SexAbuse	1	Maine
Child Welfare response	AltResp_Inelig_Neglect	1	Maine
Child Welfare response	AltResp_Inelig_Abandoned	1	Maine
Child Welfare response	AltResp_Inelig_Other	2	Maine, Virginia
Child Welfare response	AltResp_EligibilityRiskDet	1	Maine
Child Welfare response	AltResp_EligibilityRiskTool	1	Maine
Child Welfare response	AltResp_EligibilityRisk_No	1	Maine
Child Welfare response	AltResp_EligibilityRisk_Low	1	Maine
Child Welfare response	AltResp_EligibilityRisk_Moderate	1	Maine
Child Welfare response	AltResp_EligibilityRisk_Other	1	Maine
Child Welfare response	AltResp_EligibilityRisk_Unknown	1	Maine
Child Welfare response	AltResp_Eligibility_NoOtherCases	1	Maine
Child Welfare response	AltResp_Eligibility_NoSafetyCon	1	Maine
Child Welfare response	AltResp_Eligibility_PriorReports	1	Maine
Child Welfare response	AltResp_Eligibility_Other	1	Maine

Domain	Variable name	Number of states with change	Name of state
Child Welfare response	AltResp_Process_AtScreening	1	Maine
Child Welfare response	AltResp_Process_AfterScreenIn	1	Maine
Child Welfare response	AltResp_Process_Other	1	Maine
Child Welfare response	AltResp_ServiceReferral_No	1	Maine
Child Welfare response	AltResp_ServiceReferral_AllCases	1	Maine
Child Welfare response	AltResp_ServiceReferral_Interest	2	Maine, New York
Child Welfare response	AltResp_ServiceReferral_Risk	1	Maine
Child Welfare response	AltResp_ServiceReferralOther	1	Maine
Child Welfare response	InHome_PostReunification	3	Idaho, Missouri, Virginia
Child Welfare response	TribalFoster	12	Alabama, District of Columbia, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Kentucky, Missouri, New Hampshire, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Puerto Rico, West Virginia
Child Welfare response	ExtendedFosterCare	3	Hawaii, Nebraska, Ohio
Child Welfare response	ExtendedFosterCare_Age	6	Colorado, Iowa, Maine, New Mexico, Oklahoma, South Dakota
Child Welfare response	KinGuardianship	1	Puerto Rico
Child Welfare response	SubGuardianship	1	South Carolina
Child Welfare response	SubKinGuardianship	2	Puerto Rico, South Carolina
Child Welfare response	CaseManagement_Provider	3	Arizona, Mississippi, Nebraska
Child Welfare response	CaseManagement_Tribal	1	Iowa
Child Welfare response	CaseManagerQual_Associate	2	Indiana, South Dakota
Child Welfare response	CaseManagerQual_Bachelor	3	Alaska, Maryland, Wyoming
Child Welfare response	CaseManagerQual_Master	4	Maryland, New Hampshire, North Dakota, South Dakota
Child Welfare response	CaseManagerQual_Training	4	Illinois, Maryland, Montana, New Jersey

Domain	Variable name	Number of states with change	Name of state
Child Welfare response	CaseManagerQual_Experience	10	Alaska, Arkansas, Delaware, District of Columbia, Hawaii, Indiana, Louisiana, New Jersey, West Virginia, Wyoming
Child Welfare response	CaseManagerQual_Other	5	District of Columbia, Maryland, Rhode Island, South Carolina, West Virginia
Child Welfare response	CaseManagerQual_SW	14	Alaska, Colorado, Delaware, Hawaii, Idaho, Indiana, Louisiana, Maryland, Montana, Nebraska, New Jersey, Puerto Rico, Vermont, Wyoming
Child Welfare response	EquityStaffRole_No	8	Colorado, Massachusetts, Montana, New York, North Carolina, Puerto Rico, Vermont, Washington
Child Welfare response	EquityStaffRole_CulturalBroker	1	Alaska
Child Welfare response	EquityStaffRole_Manager	4	Alaska, New York, Vermont, Washington
Child Welfare response	EquityStaffRole_Other	5	Colorado, Kansas, Massachusetts, North Carolina, Utah
Child Welfare response	EquityStaffRole_Unknown	2	Montana, Puerto Rico
Child Welfare response	CulturalBroker_Screening	1	Alaska
Child Welfare response	CulturalBroker_Investigation	1	Alaska
Child Welfare response	CulturalBroker_CaseMgmt	1	Alaska
Child Welfare response	CulturalBroker_Other	2	Alaska, Hawaii
Child Welfare response	EquityStaff_Screening	7	Colorado, Indiana, Massachusetts, New York, North Carolina, Vermont, Washington
Child Welfare response	EquityStaff_Investigation	7	Colorado, Indiana, Massachusetts, New York, North Carolina, Vermont, Washington
Child Welfare response	EquityStaff_CaseMgmt	7	Colorado, Indiana, Massachusetts, New York, North Carolina, Vermont, Washington
Child Welfare response	EquityStaff_Other	8	Colorado, Indiana, Kentucky, Massachusetts, New York, North Carolina, Vermont, Washington
Child welfare context	ConsentDecree	5	Connecticut, District of Columbia, New Jersey, Washington, Wisconsin

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